THE MYSTERY OF THE DRAGNET

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
THE MYSTERY OF THE DRAGNET
Bible Text: Matthew 13:47-50

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ we thank you this evening as we begin our Bible study, I pray for Your Holy Spirit to come and open our minds and understanding in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Bible text: Matthew 13:47-50(NKJV)

[47] "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind,
[48] which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away.
[49] So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just,
[50] and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

Introduction

The Lord is set to open the portals of our Spirit again today to one of the mysteries of His Kingdom. This is why I'd like everyone to follow the teaching carefully as we move steadily on the ocean of God's words. As I start, I'm prompted to appreciate all those who have been praying for me, the leaders of this ministry and everyone in the ministry. You are indeed priceless and precious in the sight of the Lord Jesus Christ, we covet more of your prayers just as apostle Paul would say "pray for us that the gospel be not hindered" the Lord Jesus Christ will reward you bountifully on that final day in Jesus Christ's name. Amen.

Study

If we read the previous verses of the Scriptures, we would see that the Lord Jesus Christ had given a previous parable about the kingdom of God. If we look into the life of Jesus carefully, we would see that talking about the kingdom of God is something that He always did. He always went about telling people about the kingdom of God. In fact, when He started preaching, He started preaching about the kingdom of God. So, in a bid to explain more about the kingdom, He spoke in parables, and He likened the kingdom of God to a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind. I believe we all know what a dragnet is. You know what a dragnet is?

What is a dragnet?

A dragnet is a large fishing net that is dragged along the bottom of a body of water or through the water itself to catch fish. It's designed to gather **all kinds of fish**—good and bad—into one collection. It is not often easy to pull out when you throw it into the sea, it some times takes one or two people to drag. The reason they call it a dragnet is because of the weight of the thing that it will carry. So, you cannot just carry it out easily. You can only drag it because it will have carried many things from the sea.

Are you following carefully?

You know when they drag something, it means that thing must be heavy. So, that is a dragnet. So, He's saying that the kingdom of God is like a dragnet that is thrown into the sea. When it is thrown into the sea, He says that it gathers some of every kind — every kind. So, when we are talking about these dragnets, it means that Jesus Christ has sent His dragnet (gospel) into the Sea (world). And currently it is catching different kinds of fishes, He says one day, He would sit down and make a separation. "And

they sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away." the Lord decided to say this parable because He knows that many are familiar with how fishing works, fishermen who drag the net out of the sea know that the net would have gathered the things that were useful to them and the ones that were not useful to them. They knew, and as He said, they had to drag it to the seashore and begin to separate. So, they must carefully sit down. As He said, they **sat down**. It's not what they separate by rushing — they must carefully sit down and begin to separate, so that they'd not mistaking what they were not supposed to eat with what they should eat. As such they must not be in a hurry, it's a serious matter that needed sitting down to sort out.

Jesus now went further in verse 49. He said, "So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just," (**Matthew 13:49 KJV**). He said the same way they sat down and began to separate, so it will be at the end of the age. Angels will come forth and separate the wicked from among the just. This is telling you and I that at the end of the age, on the day of rapture, the angels of God will come and separate the just from the wicked. They will come down and begin to separate carefully, in a way that the righteous will not be mistaken for the unrighteous, and the unrighteous will not be mistaken for the righteous. "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" **(Matthew 24:31, KJV).**

The thing is this — I have always said different things about this aspect. One day, there will be a separation. You remember the parable of the wheat and tares, where the Master said, "Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind

them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into My barn" (**Matthew 13:30, KJV**). He said they should not pull out the tares before the time so that they would not mistakenly uproot the wheat also. So, because of this, He said they should wait until the time of harvest. That is the same way God is telling you and I that at the end of the age, which is the time of the harvest, there will be a separation between the just and the unjust. "And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in Thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for Thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And He that sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped" (**Revelation 14:15-16, KJV**).

The Lord will not just pack everybody and gather them into His Kingdom — no. He will carefully separate all those who are doing good from those who are doing evil, those who are enjoying iniquity from those who are living a pure life. "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity" (**2 Timothy 2:19, KJV**). Now, let us go to the book of **Matthew 13:41**. The Bible says, "The Son of Man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity" (**Matthew 13:41, KJV**). Can you see that? Jesus said He will gather everything that offends and everyone who commits iniquity.

This shows us clearly that there will certainly be a separation. Praise God! There will be a day when the Lord Himself will distinguish between those who belong to Him and those who do not. Now, let us look at verse 50. The Bible says, "And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (**Matthew 13:50, KJV)**. This means those who choose the path of unrighteousness will face eternal judgment. The Lord

is telling us that those who remain righteous will be gathered together with the saints in Heaven, but those who continue in their unrighteous ways will face the consequences of their decisions. Praise God! **Matthew 22:9-10.** The Scripture says, "Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests" (**Matthew 22:9-10, KJV**). This shows us something important. When Jesus says, "**throw your nets and gather as many as you find**," He is revealing to us the meaning of the mystery of the dragnet. Just as fishermen cast their nets into the sea and draw out both good and bad fish, so it is with the gospel today. The dragnet of the gospel is being thrown into the "waters" of the world, and both good and bad are being brought to the shore.

And where is this shore? The shore represents the judgement seat. For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ. Today, you will find many different kinds of people in the church. There are true believers, but there are also hypocrites. There are those walking in holiness, but there are also fornicators, adulterers, and those addicted to masturbation. There are people struggling with pornography, those consumed with lust, those filled with pride, and those who refuse to forgive others. There are even people who wrongly believe that God only looks at the heart and ignores their actions and their physical appearance, using this as an excuse to continue in sin.

All these will be dragged to the shore of God's judgement too

Are you preparing for that day?

There are different kinds of people in the church today. Even thieves are in the church. Liars are in the church. Why? Because,

just as Jesus described, the dragnet of the gospel has gathered **everyone** into the kingdom—both good and bad. And when I speak of "**the church,"** I'm not only referring to the physical church building. I'm also talking about the **world as a whole,** because the kingdom message has gone out everywhere. The Bible says, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (**Mark 16:15, KJV**). The net of the gospel has been cast into the sea of humanity, and it has gathered together all kinds of people. At this present moment, we are in a season where the net is still being dragged. There has not yet been a separation between the righteous and the unrighteous. That is why, sometimes, you look around and wonder: **How did this person get into the church? How can these things be happening in the body of Christ?** The answer is simple—because both good and bad are still in the net.

Today, we see people singing worldly songs and calling them Christian music. We see people dancing worldly dances inside the church and expecting Jesus Christ to accept it. Why? Because we are **still in the dragnet.** Everyone—both the righteous and the unrighteous—is still inside the same net. At this stage, you cannot clearly distinguish between the one that is good and the one that is bad. This is why we also see churches with different doctrines—some sound, some heretical—and people wonder, **"How can God allow all these divisions?"** The answer is that **God has not yet separated anyone**. The net has not been dragged to the shore for the **careful separation**. That time has not yet come.

We are all together in this dragnet, being drawn out of the **sea of the world** by the power of the gospel. But one day, the separation will surely happen. The Bible says, "Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away" (**Matthew 13:48, KJV**).

This means there is a day coming when the dragnet will be **full**—when the gospel mission will be complete. On that day, God Himself will command His angels to drag the net to the shore. Then, and only then, will the separation take place. The righteous will be gathered into vessels—prepared for eternal glory—while the unrighteous will be cast away.

Now, judge yourself! With the way you are living your life currently would you be gathered into God's vessel on that day of separation or you'd be cast away as worthless?

Listen carefully, your status or position will not exempt you from the dragnet. Whether you are rich or poor does not matter; whether you have a parent alive or not is not important; whether you have children or not will not count. All these things won't matter when the net is dragged to the shore! On that day, what will matter is if you had given your life to Christ and have been faithfully walking in holiness and righteousness—that's the good the Lord expects from you. "And they sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away" (**Matthew 13:48, KJV**).

Christ will sit down and gather the good into vessels and begin to separate. So, He will put the good into vessels and throw the bad away. If you have given yourself over to doing evil, be ready to be thrown away. If you are wicked, you yourself will know. If you practice witchcraft, sorcery, visit herbalists, play sport bet, sell alcoholic drinks, attach the hair, paint the face, sew ungodly dresses for others, sell seductive clothes, cause division in the church of God, spread lies and gossip, etc., you already know where you belong—to be cast away. Those bad ones that will be thrown away will not just be thrown away like that; they will be thrown into eternal fire. "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire,

prepared for the devil and his angels" (**Matthew 25:41, KJV**). May we not be among them, in Jesus' name. So, the question now is this: On that day when the dragnet will be drawn to the shore, where would you be? Would you be among the just who will be gathered into the vessels of Christ's kingdom? Will you be among them, or will you be among the bad ones who will be gathered together and thrown into the fire? How you are living your life now is what will tell. Everything you are doing—begin to check your life.

The Bible says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" (**2 Corinthians 13:5, KJV**). So, you need to check yourself: With the way I'm living my life now, will I be thrown into the fire? Will I be cast into eternal torments? Or will I be gathered together with the saints in heaven? How is your fellowship with God? What is it like? It's something to think about. Remember, no matter what you represent, **that day will expose you**. You can choose to pretend now to your pastor or other brethren, but you will have nowhere to hide on that day when the dragnet will be pulled to the shore. Why not repent genuinely and make your path straight? Jesus Christ is still ready to accept you. Don't wait until the love of this world finishes you and sends you to eternal torments and regrets. Make the right decision now — tomorrow is not guaranteed! Repent now! I pray that the Lord will give us a deeper understanding of His Word in Jesus' name. Amen.

Now, wherever you are, bow your head in prayer and say: *"Lord Jesus, make me one of the good that will be gathered into Your vessels, which is Your kingdom, in the name of Jesus. Keep declaring it: "I will be one of the good that will be gathered into Your vessels in the name of Jesus!"*

Also pray: *"I will not be among the bad ones that will be cast into eternal torment; I will not be among the bad ones that will be thrown into everlasting fire, in the name of Jesus. Lord, separate me from every work of iniquity and give me the power to live a sinless life, in the name of Jesus."* Continue to speak it with faith and surrender your heart to Him completely. Say to the Lord Jesus: *"I recognize that I am in the dragnet right now. We are all in the dragnet currently, but Lord, on that final day, may it not be discovered that I am among the bad ones or among the children of the evil one, in the name of Jesus!"* Keep praying, keep declaring, and keep crying unto Him passionately.

Now pray: *"Lord, make me faithful. Help me to be faithful to the end." The Bible says, "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13, KJV). Say it again with conviction: "Father, help me to be faithful to the very end, in the name of Jesus."*

Thank You, Father. Thank You, Jesus. In Jesus Christ's mighty name we pray. Amen.

This is the end of today's teaching, have a wonderful day

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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